

THAW'S ECCENTRICITIES TRACED TO CLIMAX OF THE SHOOTING

Searching for Bodies of Victims in Ruins of the Opera-House At Boyertown, Where 165 Dead Have Already Been Recovered

allowed to say that his father, who was Harry Thaw's second cousin, spent fifteen years in the Eastern State Asylum in Virginia, and died there. He had never heard of any insanity in his mother's family.

Q. Where you present at the time Harriet Alice Thaw, your aunt, was taken to an asylum? A. No.

The witness knew, however, that his aunt had been taken to the Friends' Asylum at Frankfort, Pa. She was eighty years old, he thought. Horace S. Thaw, a brother of the witness, died in the Western State Hospital at Staunton, Va., in 1888. He was in the insane asylum about a year.

Q. Your father went to the asylum at about what age? A. Fifty-four.

Mr. Jerome, cross-examining, drew out that the witness's father and brother had both suffered from mental trouble. Mr. Thaw was well acquainted with his mother's progenitors, but could not recall any case of any insanity in the family. The witness had not seen Harry Thaw since the defendant was a very small boy.

"Did you ever know a young woman, who, after her marriage, was Mrs. Alice Kendall Hill?" asked Mr. Littleton. The witness did not, nor was he acquainted with Joseph Copley and John Ross, another insane relative of Harry Thaw.

Dr. W. W. S. Butler, who testified yesterday, returned to the witness chair. He had charge, at one time, of the Western State Hospital at Staunton, Va., and kept Horace F. Thaw under his care.

"Horace Thaw was certainly of mental unsoundness," said Dr. Butler, "but I do not recall the exact diagnosis that was made by him in his case."

When he first took the stand Dr. Butler had been asked from answering this question, because at that time the degree of relationship existing between Harry Thaw and Horace Thaw had not been established.

On looking at the record, Dr. Butler was able to say that Horace Thaw had suffered from business worry, heredity and sexual excitement, all of them contributing to the outbreak of his mind. Then came Dr. L. L. Foster, of the Eastern District Hospital, at Williamsburg, Va., who had also been on the stand this week.

William Thaw's Melancholia. Dr. Foster identified the record, which showed the date of the admission of William S. Thaw as a patient to be Aug. 7, 1870. He died Oct. 23, 1885. The cause of his insanity was given on the record as "pecuniary distress, resulting in melancholia."

Bernard Plinsky, a tailor, who served as the coroner's jury that inquired into White's death, testified next. He had noticed at the inquest that Thaw's face was white and his eyes very much distended and apparently bursting from his head. Thaw's mouth and hand twitched constantly and he continually fingered a cigar. To Mr. Plinsky, it seemed that Thaw took more interest in the crowd outside the courtroom than in the proceedings.

Thaw Erratic at Whist Club Just Before Shooting White

Dr. Horatio Wood, of Philadelphia, was the first man to mount the stand. He is a small, timid looking man wearing glasses and a chin beard. Mr. Littleton examined.

Q. Where you ever acquainted with Harriet Alice Thaw? Harriet Alice Thaw was the first cousin of Harry Thaw's father, A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever attend her as her physician? A. No.

Q. Did you ever examine her as to her mental condition? A. Yes.

Here Mr. Jerome broke in to find whether Dr. Wood was a regular practitioner in Philadelphia. Dr. Wood said he was, and that he was also a demonstrator of pharmaceutical dynamics at a medical college. He said he had seen Harriet Alice Thaw in the exercise of his profession as a scientific investigator. He did not know her at all. Then Mr. Littleton got another whack at the witness.

Q. Where did you see Miss Harriet Alice Thaw? At a private house in the southern part of the city of Philadelphia.

Mr. Jerome interrupted. He objected because, he said, the degree of relationship to the defendant had not been shown. Mr. Littleton said he could prove that Harriet Alice Thaw was a half-sister of the prisoner's uncle. Then Justice Dowling permitted Littleton to go ahead.

Q. Was Harriet Alice Thaw of sound mind on the occasion when you saw her? A. She was of unsound mind.

Q. When was that? A. In 1894.

Dr. Wood identified a comment paper which he had signed in order that Harriet Alice Thaw might be sent to an institution.

Q. What was the institution? A. The Friends' Asylum for the Insane at Frankfort, Pa.

"What was the age of Miss Thaw when you saw her in 1894?" asked Mr. Jerome.

A. I should say about sixty years old.

Mr. Jerome showed that the commitment papers gave her age at eighty-one. He asked Dr. Wood to account for this discrepancy.

"Well," said the physician, she was so dippy that it was impossible to tell her age."

Q. How did you diagnose her case? A. As dementia.

Q. As senile dementia? A. I couldn't say whether it was senile dementia, or primary dementia, without getting a history of the case. I secured information from the neighbors that she had been insane for many years.

Q. How many years? A. As nearly as I recall from ten to twenty years.

Q. Is your memory accurate on this point? A. I think so.

Q. Is it as accurate as your estimate of her age was? A. I suppose so.

"That will be all," said Mr. Jerome. "I have no more questions either," said Mr. Littleton, and little Dr. Wood departed.

Jerome Fights Every Inch. Although Jerome had objected at every point, fighting stubbornly for every inch, Littleton had succeeded in getting to the jury, even if he did not always get it on the records. The significant fact that every branch of the Thaw stock, no matter how remote, had its imbeciles and lunatics.

The next witness was Christopher Biggin, steward of the Whist Club.

He thought Thaw's appearance was irrational.

Mr. Jerome had a lot of fun out of Mr. Plinsky. The witness got slightly confused, but stuck to his original description. Mr. Plinsky had discussed Thaw's appearance with some of the other jurors.

William S. Weber, a plumber and another member of the coroner's jury, gave testimony similar to that given by his fellow-members. He had been struck by Thaw's nervousness and unusual appearance and he was especially emphatic in his declaration that Thaw had seemed irrational.

George Meyer, a grocer, of No. 20 West One Hundred and First street, was still another coroner's jurymen who had decided that Thaw was irrational.

"What did you mean by irrational?" asked Mr. Jerome.

"Very nervous and absolutely crazy," said Mr. Meyer, promptly.

William Clunier, a butcher, also of the coroner's jury, declared Thaw had impressed him as irrational. He denied to Jerome that the fact that the defendant had destroyed a good cigar induced his opinion.

"It was his staring look," said the butcher. "He couldn't keep his eyes fixed down."

"That's all," cried the District Attorney. "There's no use wasting time."

Mr. Littleton was on his feet in a flash and took exception to Mr. Jerome's remark. Justice Dowling ordered the jury to disregard it.

S. Wedelmann, a tailor, who has been on the coroner's jury, spent ten uncomfortable minutes under Mr. Jerome's cross-examination. He admitted that all but one member of the coroner's jury were members of his lodge, and that he had frequently talked with them of the Thaw case.

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RUINS OF THEATRE FLOOR SHOWING ENTRANCE TO 5 FOOT STAIRCASE WHERE 26 BODIES WERE FOUND IN A HEAP.

for thirteen or fourteen years? A. I don't know.

Q. Who was he playing with on June 2? A. Capt. Wharton and John H. Brady, I think.

Q. Was Mr. John B. Gleason, who formerly acted as Thaw's counsel, in the room? A. I think he was in the room.

Q. Were they playing for money? A. They were playing for pastime.

Q. Did you think they were playing for money? A. I don't know.

Q. Have you any idea? A. I am not sure.

Q. There was a lady in the room, Justice Dowling asked.

Q. Did you remember the next day who was playing with Mr. Thaw? A. I don't know.

Q. I don't know. I recall Mr. Thaw's appearance because it was so unusual.

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with an expression of pained surprise. He was suddenly seized by the arm and statements that drinking and gambling were forbidden at the Whist Club.

When forced to admit that the men were kept liquor in their lockers and occasionally called for it, Biggin's voice shook as if he were about to sob. Then he said the force of the admission, in his sharp emphasis on the statement, "We serve mineral water, sir—four kinds."

Q. You say Thaw was irritable on the afternoon of June 2? Was he irritable at the time he was playing with Mr. White?

Q. He was not irritable at the time he was playing with Mr. White. He was irritable at the time he was playing with Mr. White.

Q. How long did you see him? A. I saw him for a few minutes.

Q. Did you ever see him after that? A. I did not see him after that.

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Q. Then you met a lot of lunatics who were in the room? A. I have seen men who are not clear headed.

Q. Have you ever seen anybody nervous and irrational after heavy drinking? A. No.

Q. When the persons you knew could carry it off well? A. Yes.

Q. How long have you lived in New York? A. Twenty-five years.

Q. Where did you live before that? A. In the British Isles.

Q. What part of the British Isles? A. Ireland.

Never Saw Anybody So Irrational. Mr. McGinnis had seen many persons who were in the room, but he did not remember seeing any one who appeared so irrational as Thaw.

Q. Did you ever see anything in your verdict about the irrationality of the defendant? A. That was not our business.

Mr. Littleton jumped up and sought to bring out that the coroner's jury had not seen Thaw at the time of the shooting.

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Q. How did his acts and appearance impress you? A. As being irrational.

Q. Please point out some irrational act of the defendant? A. He seemed to be a man in such a place and every thing.

Q. How long did you see him? A. I saw him for a few minutes.

Q. Did you ever see him after that? A. I did not see him after that.

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